

CLASSIFIED OFFICIAL USE

Action

Control 15-78

Rec'd: September 20, 1962
12:51 p.m.

ARA

Info

FROM: Sao Paulo

SS

TO: Secretary of State

G

H

NO: 51, September 19, 11 a.m.

CAP

EUR

AID

P

USIA

INR

CIA

NSA

OSD

ARMY

NAVY

AIR

RMR

Reference: DEPCIRTEL 475.

Recent news coverage given Cuban situation concrete and extensive despite preoccupation Brazil domestic political crisis. With exception leftist/nationalist ULTIMA HORA, all general circulation Sao Paulo dailies condemn Castro's betrayal of revolution, current Communist regime in Cuba and Soviet military assistance, see Cuba as growing threat to hemisphere and are sympathetic to US positions varying from hands-off policy to O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO which foresees possible necessity of US-backed invasion. General agreement that 1) Soviet troops mean regime fearful of own troops and a domestic uprising; 2) nations were right in excluding Cuba from LAFTA; 3) Kennedy's statements were correct and needed; 4) US could and should act when and if Cuba becomes threat to hemisphere. Several editorialists say Brazil policy under Quadros and at Punta del Este has strengthened Fidel, and that this policy continues. State officials are too occupied with domestic politics to give much attention international affairs, but most think well of US and probably accept general newspaper side.

While difficult measure public opinion, in our judgment Soviet military aid has increased awareness of Communist threat to Brazil, and public approves President's stated position.

BRADDOCK

ATT

CLASSIFIED OFFICIAL USE

REPRODUCTION FROM THIS COPY IS
PROHIBITED UNLESS "UNCLASSIFIED"